



**METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION**

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter  
101 Eighth Street  
Oakland, CA 94607-4700  
TEL 510.817.5700  
TTY/TDD 510.817.5769  
FAX 510.817.5848  
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov

*Scott Haggerty, Chair*  
Alameda County

*Adrienne J. Tissier, Vice Chair*  
San Mateo County

*Tom Azumbrado*  
U.S. Department of Housing  
and Urban Development

*Tom Bates*  
Cities of Alameda County

*Dean J. Chu*  
Cities of Santa Clara County

*Dave Cortese*  
Association of Bay Area Governments

*Chris Daly*  
City and County of San Francisco

*Bill Dodd*  
Napa County and Cities

*Dorene M. Giacopini*  
U.S. Department of Transportation

*Federal D. Glover*  
Contra Costa County

*Anne W. Halsted*  
San Francisco Bay Conservation  
and Development Commission

*Steve Kinsey*  
Marin County and Cities

*Sue Lempert*  
Cities of San Mateo County

*Jake Mackenzie*  
Sonoma County and Cities

*Jon Rubin*  
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

*Bijan Sartipi*  
State Business, Transportation  
and Housing Agency

*James P. Sperling*  
Solano County and Cities

*Amy Worth*  
Cities of Contra Costa County

*Ken Yeager*  
Santa Clara County

*Steve Heminger*  
Executive Director

*Ann Flemer*  
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

*Andrew B. Fremier*  
Deputy Executive Director,  
Bay Area Toll Authority

*Therese W. McMillan*  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

**Programming and Allocations Committee  
March 4, 2009  
Minutes**

Chair Tissier called the meeting to order at approximately 2:05 p.m. Committee members present were: Commissioners Bates, Cortese, Daly, Kinsey, Mackenzie, and Sartipi. Other Commissioners present were: Chu, Dodd, Haggerty, Rubin, and Worth.

**Consent Calendar**

The Committee approved the following consent items:

- Minutes of February 11, 2009 meeting as submitted.
- 2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 2009-09. MTC Resolution No. 3875, Revised.

**Regional Programming**

- *Regional Measure 2 (RM2) Operating Program Update.*

Alix Bockelman, Director of Programming and Allocations, updated the Committee on FY 2007-08 RM2 operating performance and presented staff's recommendations to discontinue funding on June 30, 2009 for five routes (AC Transit's Route M/MA, Golden Gate's Route 75, AC Transit's Route J, CCCTA's Route 820, and LAVTA's Route 810) that failed to meet performance measures established by the Commission in the RM2 performance policy.

***Public Comments:***

Kate Miller, AC Transit, stated that she is supportive of redirecting Route J revenues to other services. With regards to Route M, AC Transit wrote a letter to MTC explaining that RM2, Measure B, and STIP funds have gone into a facility adjacent to the Dumbarton Bridge called the Ardenwood Park and Ride lot that will open in June of 2009. AC Transit would like to monitor Route M over the course of six months to a year to reassess whether or not the performance improves.

Celinda Dahlgren, Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCCTA), commended the CCCTA Board for being financially responsible and discontinuing the Owl service line when they realized that it was not a productive line and before being forced to do it. Ms. Dahlgren noted that CCCTA is facing major service cuts on their system and requested that MTC reconsider allowing the use of the funds they were getting for the Owl service line for other services within the system.

Gayle Prior, Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District, commented that they understand the need to discontinue funding for Route 75 but are disappointed and will continue to run a scaled back service on that route without the RM2 funding. GGBHTD will submit a proposal to MTC for Route 101 which will be an express version of Route 80 and will run from Santa Rosa to San Francisco making stops in Cotati, Petaluma, Novato, and the San Rafael Transit Center.

Commissioner Jake Mackenzie stated that as a council member of the City of Rohnert Park he would like to see an express bus stop in his city.

Commissioner Adrienne Tissier asked if we are taking away the Owl service funding, and if it isn't being used on any other Owl service would they be eligible to use that funding for something else. Ms. Bockelman responded by stating there are other Owl services running within the region and we would have to take those needs into consideration first before redirecting those funds to another program. Commissioner Tissier said that it would be a good idea for staff to look into the availability of funds left over after the allocation of funds to the Owl services.

Commissioner Scott Haggerty agreed with this request and explained that LAVTA has made service cuts of approximately 22 percent to balance the budget and they would be interested in the availability of funds after the allocations are made to the Owl services.

Commissioner Amy Rein Worth suggested that we explore how RM2 funds can be used going forward to be sure that the allocations are meeting the intentions of the voters because they voted for RM2 based on their understanding of what services would be provided and where the resources would be spent. Celinda Dahlgren commented that she does not understand how the Owl service reduces congestion on the bridges, which was the intent of the RM2 legislation.

Commissioner Tom Bates asked if the J Line is being eliminated despite the letter from AC Transit indicating that the Farebox Recovery is increasing and expressed concern for the 100,000 annual riders if service is discontinued. Therese McMillan, MTC Deputy Executive Director Policy, clarified that the J Line is not an Owl Service; it is an Express Line. She went on to say that one of the values of the RM2 structure is the requirement to look at performance as a piece of our investment portfolio with respect to these funds and that discipline is something we want to apply in a larger structure. Should funds not be continued due to poor performance, as proposed, the operators could then redirect the funds to something that is more productive within the limits of the laws in the RM2 structure. That is something we would work with the operators on and bring a recommendation back before the Commission.

Commissioner Steve Kinsey moved staff's recommendation to discontinue RM2 funding for the services staff has proposed and to give the operators the notice by the end of June. With regards to the AC Transit Line M we have set performance standards with the RM2 and we should honor that discipline, but open it up to all of the operators to see where the most useful benefit would be.

Commissioner Bates suggested that if we withdraw funding from any of the operators that they at least have the opportunity to redirect funding within their operation. He further asked, that if for example, a service goes from Berkeley to San Francisco but isn't an Express Service could the funds be rerouted into that service since the intent of RM2 is to get people across the bridge in an efficient manner.

Alix Bockelman confirmed that we have been working with the operators to allow them this opportunity. Therese McMillan further clarified that RM2 does not permit freed up Express Bus Funding to be used anywhere in an AC Transit operating budget. The funds would have to be consistent with another Express Bus service because of the limitations of RM2 language. In order to ensure that this happens, staff would consult with legal counsel to determine the flexibility the statute allows.

- *Regional Measure 2 (RM2) Capital Allocations and Programming (i) Proposed allocation to Project 7.1 North Connector. MTC Resolution No. 3739. (ii) Proposed program for the Regional Express Bus North pool of projects. MTC Resolution No. 3890. (iii) Proposed allocation of \$50,000 to Pacheco Transit Center. MTC Resolution No. 3889, Revised.*

Shruti Hari, Programming and Allocations, presented staff's recommendations to allocate approximately \$18 million in Regional Measure 2 capital funds and adoption of the Regional Express Bus North pool of projects into the RM2 capital program.

The Committee approved staff's recommendation to refer MTC Resolution Nos. 3739, Revised, 3890, and 3889 to the Commission for approval.

### **California Transportation Commission Update**

Kenneth Kao, Programming and Allocations, gave the Committee updates from the CTC meetings held on February 18 and 19 in Sacramento. The items included a discussion of how the state would handle its distribution of stimulus fund and continued deferment of all STIP and Bond allocations including over \$200 million for the Caldecott Tunnel due to issues with the state's cash flow. He also reported that it was John Barna's last meeting as Executive Director and Andre Boutros is now the acting interim Executive Director of the CTC. Additionally, it was John Chalker's last meeting as Chair and Bob Alvarado is the new Chair. The next CTC meeting will be on March 11 and 12 in Sacramento, and some of the meeting highlights will include discussions on implementation of the stimulus program, actions related to the trade corridor investment fund and the state local partnership program, and the ten year SHOPP plan.

### **Public Comment**

Commissioner Tissier adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:54 p.m.